

Wards 4 and 7 NPA
May 23, 2018
130 Gosse Court Miller Center
Draft Minutes

Start 7:05pm

Committee members present: Jeff Clark-Ward 4, Eric Corbman-Ward 4, Chris Trombly-Ward 4, Linda Deliduka-Ward 7

Introductions and Open Forum

Jeff Clark Reads off NPA resolution

https://www.burlingtonvt.gov/sites/default/files/CEDO/Neighborhood_Services/NPAs/Original%20Resolution%20Creating%20the%20NPAs.pdf

Ground rules GROUND RULES Listen to others speaking | Respect the agenda and process Share your opinion politely | Treat people respectfully

We are live streaming on Facebook. <https://www.facebook.com/NorthEndNPA/>

Chief Locke Summer and Fire Safety-Fire is prohibited on beaches and chimineas are prohibited. The Fire Department get 500 calls over the summer. Have gotten 16 fires in one week. The first nice Spring night half of the fire fighters are on beaches putting out fires. This is not a good cost to City resources and is labor intensive. Fireworks start as calls for the police. Get over 8000 calls a year. Have 20 staff and get a lot of medical calls. All Firefighters are EMTs. Group shows 3-4 minutes before ambulance and start care. Smoke detectors are required to have in homes now. In apartments there are strict rules and need to be in certain areas such as bedrooms. Last year there was a task force that was put together due to the downing. Some safety prevention actions done were increasing swimming lessons, added new signs where swimming is allowed and where swimming is not, and Parks have expanded patrol hours.

Open and Natural Land Conservation and Connection Initiative (OLCCI)

OLCCI is a partnership between the City of Burlington-BPR&W, Conservation Board, Winooski Valley District, and the Diocese brought together through a resolution. The OLCCI wants residents to image how to preserve natural space and interact with natural areas such as wetlands and forest. 49% of Burlington is Open Space. Typical open space for other cities is 12%. A lot of open space is in central core of the City and of that open space 15% is public parks space. For example Interval is own by eleven owner which makes connectivity and conservation and access difficult. Last June there was City council resolution that was passed that gives City department direction and come up with a plan to work with land owners. Some great natural area on trails at Rock Point, The Interval Caves, and Arms Forest has yellow slippers, and there is an American chestnut in Burlington which only twenty eight exist. In the

interval there are red foxes which help keep rodent population down and foxes are throughout Burlington. Burlington is a fox city. Bob cats are in Burlington. There are five hundred animal species in Burlington which was tracked through mammal tracking system. The Winooski river makes great habitat for wild life. These are natural wonders of Burlington. BTV conservation news highlights conservation initiative and events. The arms forest is one example that owned by three owners, church, parks and conservation working together to improve natural area management and conservation. Hope that this resolution will improve the conservation and bring more people out to enjoy these natural spaces.

Many Cities are connecting their natural areas and ahead of Burlington in this effort. The opportunities are improving equity in access to natural areas for people that don't have the luxury of jumping in their car and driving out to the country or mountains. Another opportunity is making sure that our natural areas are clean and not trashed. Goal is to get people out there to enjoy our natural areas. Can sign up for BTV conservation news to get updates and will have conservation walks.

Birchwood Development Presentation

Birchwood is a skilled nurses' facilities on Star Farm road that provides long term and acute supports. Have been in business 53 years and was in built when the area was a commercial zone but since then was changed to a residential zone. Birchwood is directly across from Flynn School. About a year and half ago there was an enforcement of no parking on side of street which forced people to park in Birchwood's parking lot. The City issued a zoning violation due over parking. The zoning is 45 parking spaces and but need to have at least 100 spaces to accommodate staff and visitors. Met with the City and proposed adding additional parking spaces. Can have front parking and have 35 percent lot coverage in residential zone that would be impervious surface. In order to get additional parking would need to create impervious parking which wouldn't be ideal because of safety for seniors. The City suggested remote parking and looked into other spaces such as Price Chopper and Leddy Park but alternative locations didn't have extra parking. Met with the City and was granted a waiver to park on site. The next proposal is to create a 3rd parking lot and enhance storm water area to make it more attractive. Still need to work with the City to work through the process. Hoping to do the work when school is not in session. Also Birchwood is changing in ownership. Have been Kindred and now Kindred is getting out of the business. New owners are ENR and committed to work this through. Want the parking in the front and not put in the back to preserve the forested natural area for residents to enjoy. Birchwood is a 4-star facility and moto is "We are Family". There is a lot of love in the facility but the facility is a 1960's design. Want to update to 2018 inside and out. Outside will create beautiful homey environment to put loved ones in and families can feel secure that's where their love ones are. It's import that neighbors are staying engaged. Birchwood is going through Planning and Zoning and if proposal is approved won't see any changes for at least a 1 year. Birchwood is committed to do quarterly updates to NPAs. Parking needs to be on site and not idea to be remote. Many visitors are seniors and staff shift start at 1am and it's not ideal to be shuttling people in especially in the winter time. Did two parking studies over 3 weeks. One was when school is in session and one when school was out of session. Want to verify what is from school parking and what is from facility parking. The necessity is during shift change which shifts overlap. Then there's guest, vendors, admin which equates to 98 spaces.

School Board update Monica-Ward 4. On May 8th Para-Educator contract was settled. Capital Plan has come out of the District in the past couple month. District is proposing to build 2 preschools at CP Smith and Champlain locations. The building in Champlain would be larger to house preschool and have a new central district building. Not in an agreement with this capital plan proposal because when voted on this capital plan voted on deferred maintenance of existing building not on new development. The idea is to close down preschool in Old North End and students will be bused to new preschools. The idea is to use the district office as a swing site but would house all the students that will be re-located due to deferred maintenance. When the Superintendent presented to the new board this plan board encouraged that this plan be presented to the public to be more transparent. mivancb@bsdvt.org (look up)

City Council Update

Kurt Wright-Burlington Telecom (BT) was sold to Shores. City Place is currently in construction. Bike path has been repaved. Budgeting presentation was done and feel the administration did a good job. Ad-hoc committee on City Hall Park has been put together. Looking to save some crab trees but design most likely will stay the same. For Legislative report, Governor won't increase taxes. Hopefully can come to a compromise and wrap up next Wednesday.

Dave Hartnett- We have the most fantastic teachers, staff and para educators. We have the greatest school in VT. Always try to stay positive. Love seeing the kids come get creemeees now that it's better weather. BT opened up in the North End and looking to expand beyond TV. Spent a lot time with local neighbors but important to do the work to support the north end such as Birchwood and making sure that Leddy Park beach bites happen. When changing from 4 lanes to 3 lanes were promised flashing light to improve crosswalks, protected walk lanes, and paving which hasn't been delivered. On transportation committee and will push on what was promised. Granted the Superintendent a waiver of not living in Burlington because of hardship. Asked the school board to weigh in which they said he should be granted a waiver. Need to revisit the 2005 mandate that directors need to live in the City and make a decision on what we need to do in waivers or not.

End: 9:00pm

Minutes by Phet Keomanyvanh-CEDO